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☐ 4.	Ex-prosecutor polices eBay; [5XS Edition] DAVID STREITFELD. Chicago Sun - Times. Chicago, III.: Dec 14, 19	999. p. 46					
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20.	E-BUSINESS BUILDING BLOCK ILLINOIS FIRM BELIEVES IN S [CHICAGO SPORTS FINAL Edition] Andrew Zajac, Tribune Staff Writer. Chicago Tribune. Chicago, Ill.:	·

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1-30 of 191 < First < Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 7		< First < Previous 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Next >				
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MAN BANNED FOR LIFE FROM DOING BUSINESS ON INTERNET LAKE WORTH MAN SETTLES WITH TRADE BOARD AFTER BEING CHARGED IN COMPUTER SALES SCAM

Herubin, Danielle. Palm Beach Post. West Palm Beach, Fla.: Sep 16, 1998. pg. 5.B.

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Subjects:

Regulatory agencies, Bans, Internet, Electronic commerce, Fraud

Locations:

Lake Worth, FL, US, South Atlantic

People:

Hare, Craig Lee

Companies:

FTC (Sic:9611, Duns:00-325-7797)

Author(s):

Herubin, Danielle

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The Federal Trade Commission has reached a first-of-its-kind settlement with a Lake Worth man that bars him from doing business on the Internet for life.

With some bidders paying as much as \$1,450 for a computer, Hare took about \$20,000 to \$30,000 from people throughout the United States and Canada, the FTC said.

"We know of at least 25 consumers who ordered computers from Mr. Hare through these auction houses and sent him payments and never received any equipment from him," said Lisa Hone, a staff attorney with the FTC in Washington, D.C.

Full Text (540 words)

Copyright Palm Beach Post Sep 16, 1998

The Federal Trade Commission has reached a first-of-its-kind settlement with a Lake Worth man that bars him from doing business on the Internet for life.

Craig Lee Hare, also known as Danny Hare, was accused by the federal agency of selling new and used computers through on-line auction houses, pocketing the money, and never shipping the computer.

He was charged with four counts of using unfair or deceptive acts in mail or telephone commerce.

Article View

With some bidders paying as much as \$1,450 for a computer, Hare took about \$20,000 to \$30,000 from people throughout the United States and Canada, the FTC said.

"We know of at least 25 consumers who ordered computers from Mr. Hare through these auction houses and sent him payments and never received any equipment from him," said Lisa Hone, a staff attorney with the FTC in Washington, D.C.

"We hope this sends a message that the Federal Trade Commission and others are serious about preventing fraud in Internet commerce."

For about nine months in 1997 and 1998, Hare would register with Internet auction houses as a seller of computers or computer equipment.

On-line auction houses allow people to sell things by paying a fee to post an item to be bid on.

Doing business as Experience Designed Computers and C&H Computer Services but using an anonymous e-mail address, Hare took bids, then told people, usually through e-mail, that they had won, the FTC said. Hare had the people send him cashier's checks or money orders.

The two auction houses that he used - ①Ebay at www.ebay.com and Up4Sale at www.up4sale.com - were not charged.

The FTC has probed about 40 cases of possible fraud in business done through the Internet. The first case was in 1994, FTC vs. Corzine, in which a California man ran ads on OAmerica Online offering credit repair kits. The ads falsely said that a new credit file would be established for the person, Hone said. In September 1994, a federal court prohibited him from making those misrepresentations again.

The Hare case, however, is the first time a person has been banned for life from doing business over the Internet. Hone said a ban is the FTC's stiffest penalty, next to paying fines. Hare did not pay a fine or reimbursement because he had no money, the FTC said. If he violates the settlement, he would be held in contempt of court, Hone said. A judge, at the FTC's request, would have to determine what penalty he would face for contempt.

Hare, who represented himself in the civil case, could not be reached for comment.

His former girlfriend, Stephanie J. Herter, also known as Stephanie Branham, paid \$600 to settle charges against her, according to the FTC. Hare had put some checks he received into her bank accounts, Hone said.

Herter, whose last known address was in Lake Worth, could not be reached for comment. Her North Palm Beach attorney, David Gorman, said Herter paid the government because it was cheaper than fighting the allegations.

The civil charges against Hare included violating the FTC's Mail or Telephone Order Merchandise rule. The case was brought to the FTC's attention by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.

Textual Illustration:

Caption: Craig Lee Hare (mug)

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